

**CITY OF BELLEVUE  
YOUTH LINK BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

October 10, 2012  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

City Hall  
Room 1E-120  
Bellevue, WA

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Co-Chairs Michelle Mattson-Hamilton and Jenny Kim,  
Boardmembers Annie Cheng, Xiaoning Jiang, Angela Navas, Ryley Martin, Brian McDonald<sup>1</sup>

**BOARDMEMBER ABSENT:** Boardmember Olivia Gonzalez

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE:** Po Bodin

**COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT:** Councilmember Kevin Wallace

**STAFF PRESENT:** Helena Stephens

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Max Navas, Susan Sullivan, Alex Tang

**MINUTES TAKER:** Michelle Cash

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Mattson-Hamilton at 6:01 p.m.

Timekeeper: Annie Cheng

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion by Boardmember Navas and second by Boardmember Jiang to approve the meeting agenda.**

Ms. Stephens noted that Adam Fletcher had to cancel his presentation, which was originally scheduled under “Unfinished & New Business Action Items.”

**At the question, motion carried unanimously (6-0) to approve the revised meeting agenda.**

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<sup>1</sup> Arrived at 6:13 p.m.

**3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Councilmember Wallace introduced himself as the Council liaison for the Youth Link Board. Ms. Stephens provided Councilmember Wallace with a brief background about Youth Link.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Boardmember Bodin and second by Boardmember Navas to approve the September 12, 2012 regular meeting minutes of the Youth Link Board as presented.**

**Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**

**5. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Action Items**

- Youth Council Report

Youth Council members provided the following report:

- Approximately 80 youth members attended the September 19 Youth Link Open House event.
- The first BYC general meeting was held on October 3. BYC members have started preparing for the Trick-or-Treat event to benefit World Impact Network.
- The next BYC meeting will be held on October 17.
- A Teen Closet Distribution event was held on October 8. Due to the change in the weather, there will be an additional event on October 29.
- There is a Kids Care Coat Drive scheduled in January 2013. Collections for this event will start next week.
- All BYC members are encouraged to attend the October 15 City Council meeting where Councilmembers will celebrate the America's Promise Alliance award for the top 100 best communities for young people.

- Staff Report

Ms. Stephens reported on the following items:

- Friends of Youth recently opened a service center in Redmond for Eastside youth, who are homeless.
- The Lake-to-Lake Walk and Bike-to-Bike Event was a huge success. Thanks to the youth that volunteered.
- All Youth Link and BYC members are encouraged to attend the October 15 celebration with City Council for the America's Promise Award.
- For those interested in Youth Court, there will be a mandatory Youth Court Training session on October 11.

- The Washington State Youth Court Association will hold their State-wide training on October 20. Attendance must be confirmed with Ms. Stephens.

Ms. Stephens recently attended the 2012 Bridge Conference and discussed highlights from the meeting. In particular, she talked about Nikhil Goyal's session about transforming the American school system. Ms. Stephens suggested that Mr. Goyal be considered as a presenter at a future Youth Involvement Conference.

Ms. Stephens distributed the September 11, 2012 Parks & Community Services Board Regular Meeting Minutes.

#### B. Study Session Items

- Youth Link Work Plan Review

Ms. Stephens reviewed the list of Youth Link Action Items that were provided to City Council, including:

- Funding of the program.
- Transition the current Youth Link Board to an 8 person youth leadership board and maintain the current Bellevue Youth Council.
- Continue to serve as the official "youth voice" for the Community. Establish and oversee a structured youth leadership curriculum.
- Be proactive in community initiatives, such as Eastside Pathways, Nourishing Network, etc.
- Network.

The Bellevue Youth Council will continue to support the following:

- Youth Involvement Conference.
- Annual Community Leadership Awards ceremony.
- Action Teams.

In addition, Ms. Stephens noted that Youth Link will share fiscal responsibility of the program.

- Eastside Pathways Action Team Discussion

Ms. Sullivan, Eastside Pathways, discussed the mission of Eastside Pathways, which is to maximize each child's opportunity for a productive, fulfilling life. Eastside Pathways is using the collective impact framework to sustain an ongoing, community-wide effort to make a measurable difference for kids. Ms. Sullivan explained that the collective impact framework helped supporters agree on the following items:

- Common Agenda
- Shared Measurement
- Mutually Reinforcing Activities
- Continuous Communication
- Backbone Support Organization

Ms. Sullivan explained that Bellevue was selected for the Eastside Pathways program because it is becoming increasingly diverse both ethnically and economically. The city-wide graduation rate is over 95%, but for low-income and English language learners, graduation rates are closer to 70%. Ms. Sullivan noted that there is an achievement gap trend between non low-income and low-income students.

Boardmember Bodin suggested that positive role models for youth be established throughout the community to help struggling youth. This might assist with motivating youth members. Boardmember Navas agreed and added that many high schools already have students that might be interested in mentoring younger community members. If a “mentoring club” is formed, Boardmember Martin suggested that a teacher advisor be sought to oversee the club.

Boardmembers thought it would be helpful to obtain the following information to determine other suggestions for Eastside Pathways:

- List of Title I Schools.
- Determine the expectations of Eastside Pathways.
- Structural framework of Eastside Pathways.
- Identify aspects that influence a person getting a job/career.

Ms. Stephens summarized Eastside Pathway’s request by asking the following: *If you could change how a youth member learns or how information is presented, what would it take for all youth to be successful?* Boardmembers will ponder this question at the upcoming Board Retreat.

- Youth Link Youth Involvement Conference Priorities

Ms. Stephens distributed the 2012 Youth Link Youth Involvement Conference list of priorities. Ms. Stephens will provide Boardmembers further information (including a list of votes and rankings) at the Board Retreat. Boardmembers will review the information and brainstorm plans to accomplish the identified goals at the Board Retreat.

## **6. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by Co-Chair Kim and second by Boardmember Cheng to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).**